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In the stage succeeding this, as the narcosis deepens, which he terms the paradoxical stage, it was found that while *strong* stimuli produced only a mere beginning of muscular contraction, *weak* stimuli produced tetanic contraction and that conductivity persists longest for weak stimuli. It was also found that in the paradoxical stage a stimulus applied to the normal nerve tract above the narcotized tract exerted an inhibiting influence upon the latter, *e. g.*, if stimulation of the narcotized tract still produces some response in the muscle, this vanishes or is greatly decreased if a point in the normal nerve tract above is stimulated at the same time. A long series of experiments with induction currents of varying strength was carried out for the purpose of investigating this inhibitory influence of connected nerve tracts and likewise on the effects of different chemical and thermal agents applied to the nerve, from which he concludes that states of the nerve completely analogous to narcosis can be produced by ordinary means of excitation—and that irritability, inhibition, and narcosis are so closely related that the same stimuli under different conditions may produce either of these states. As a term to cover all states of the nerve in which irritability is more or less deadened, whether by narcotics or other means, he coins the word Parabiose, which state he concludes is most closely related if not identical with inhibition. This work of Prof. Wedensky's is the most complete and extensive contribution which has yet been made on the subject of inhibition, and his conclusions are far reaching and important for psychology, inasmuch as the problem of inhibition is closely bound up with those theories of will and attention that have a physiological basis.

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THEODATE L. SMITH.

La Contagion Mentale, par A. VIGOUROUX et P. P. JUQUELIER. Bibliothèque Internationale de Psychologie Experimentale. Octave Doin, Paris, 1905. pp. 258.

This is a summary discussion of such topics as imitation, suggestion, and other mechanism, the contagion of movements, acts, and affective states, especially the primitive emotions of pain and pleasure and of the highest feelings. Then the contagion of ideas, and the conditions, voluntary and involuntary, under which all these processes occur, conclude the first part. In the second part the contagion of morbid movements, the perversion of nutritive instincts in the form of drugs, morbid fears and phobias, anger, tender emotion, anomalies of personal sentiment, megalomania, suicide, sexual perversions, religious expressions, æsthetic and intellectual sentiments, are discussed. Many personal observations from the author's own experience are introduced into this work.

L'Arrération Mentale. Contribution à l'étude de la pathologie infantile. Par DR. AUG. LÉY. J. Lebègue & Cie., Bruxelles, 1904. pp. 263.

The author had unusual opportunities for years for studying backward children and youth at Antwerp and has sought to group the ensemble of symptoms in children slightly retarded in their development. After very briefly discussing causes, especially the biological and social factors, he turns to symptomatology, which occupies most of the book. These are subdivided as somatic and psycho-nervous. Under the former head he treats of all asymmetries which anthropometry can detect. Here, too, he places blood defects and anomalies of temperature. The other group of somatic symptoms which he calls pathological injuries are adenoids, tuberculosis, rickets, syphilis, etc. Under the second general division he takes up especial senses and then passes to the central motor organs under which he discusses not

only contractures, reflexes, ergographic tests, but also language, writing and drawing. The third sub-heading is devoted to topics of intellect, arrest, attention, memory, orientation, fatigue, sentiment, imagination, suggestibility, etc. The sections on treatment and on the social and medico-legal point of view are brief.

Heart of My Heart, by ELLIS MEREDITH. McClure, Phillips & Co., New York, 1904. pp. 230.

We have here a very intimate diary of a young wife during the gestation period. It is very suggestive and may almost be said to open a new vista to the psychologist. It shows how much closer becomes the bond between husband and wife, how the latter feels herself to be no longer her own, how much more careful of the wife is the husband now. So, too, comes the almost utter absence of any fear of death, the desire of the whole motherhood, pain and all. The function of paternity stands out in strong light, and so does the impulse to care for one's self in this condition all the more if loved and cared for by others. The home-making instinct is very strongly developed now, a little like nest-hiding among the animals. There is an instinct to shun publicity. There is also a desire to cultivate tranquil and sweet states of mind for its effects, a new pity for childless women, a preference (which this mother thinks universal) for boys, a desire that if either mother or child should have to be sacrificed it should be the former. Everything is planned out minutely in advance, every contingency arranged for, every wish and even caprice indulged. One cannot read this book without feeling a new pity for childless wives.

Proceedings of the American Medico-Psychological Association at the Fifty-ninth Annual Meeting held in Washington, D. C., May 12-15, 1903. pp. 507.

This volume contains an unusually large number of interesting articles, one of the best being that of Dr. Adolf Meyer on the anatomical facts and clinical varieties of traumatic insanity. Dr. Burr gives an interesting summary of surgical experiences in insanity of traumatic origin, and Dr. Everett Flood on the psychology of epilepsy.

The Surgical Treatment of Bright's Disease, by GEORGE M. EDEBOHLS. Frank F. Liseiecki, New York, 1904. pp. 327.

The time has hardly come for a complete systematic presentation of surgical treatment of Bright's disease, but there is a demand for some such treatment and this the author seeks to meet so far as current literature makes it possible. As he well says, his theory on trial will be judged by its results. His own conclusion is that chronic Bright's disease justifies surgical treatment.

The Tree-Dwellers, by KATHERINE ELIZABETH DOPP. Rand, McNally & Co., New York, 1904. pp. 158.

Médiumnité Délirante, par P. SOLLIER et FRANÇOIS BOISSIER. Archives de Neurologie. Vol. XVIII, Nos. 103 and 104, 1904.

This paper, giving a minute analysis of two cases of mediumship, is the outcome of the recent tendency in France of the scientific study in spiritualism, which found its culmination a few years ago in Flournoy's, "*Des Indes à la Planète Mars*," a study of a subconscious mind, capable of great imaginative and creative flights. The present writers look upon mediumship as a form of mental disorder (hysteria) and tentatively divide it into three classes:

1st. That form in which the symptomatic elements are represented by the medium himself.